

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2-12, 16-18, and 20-23 are pending in the application, with claims 16-18 and 23 being the independent claims. By this Amendment, Applicant seeks to amend claims 16 and 18 to correct informalities. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicant also submits a Request for Continued Examination herewith.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C Sec 112

Claims 2-12, 16, 18, 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 16 and 18 have been amended to more clearly recite the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C Sec 103

Claims 2-12, 16-18, and 20-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sharrit et al. (US Patent 5,999,990) in view of Bonola (US

Patent 5,706,514). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 2-12, 16-18, and 20-23.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, all of the claimed features must be taught or suggested by the references and there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, MPEP Section 2142.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teachings of Sharrit and Bonola fail to teach or suggest the claimed invention. In particular, the combination of references fails to teach or suggest a method for providing multimedia functionality including identifying, independent of tasks, available processing resources, as recited in claims 16 and 18.

In the present invention, as illustrated in FIG. 4 and discussed on page 6 of Applicant's specification, a kernel 407 has the ability to quantify the capability of processing resources 401, 402, and 403. As further illustrated in FIG. 8, for example, these processing resources are specifically tracked and identified. See FIG. 8, step 803 and Applicant's specification page 11; also see FIG. 7 and Applicant's specification page 10. By contrast, the Sharrit reference is completely silent regarding this identifying step recited in Applicant's claims 16 and 18.

In Sharrit, for example, a communicator 10, includes a plurality of RRUs 13 each having signal processing functionality (col. 2, lines 35-50). This reference repeatedly teaches that each of these RRUs can be reconfigured to generate transmit signals at different center frequencies, in accordance with processing that needs to be performed

(col. 3, lines 13-35). In other words, in Sharrit, a controller 16 merely determines what tasks need to be performed and then reconfigures one of the RRUs 13 to perform this task. Sharrit, however, fails to recite, teach, or suggest anything about Applicant's novel and non-obvious task of identifying, independent of the tasks, available processing resources.

Therefore, assuming *arguendo*, that one would be motivated to combine these references in the manner suggested by the Office Action, the present invention would not be obvious in view of such combinations. The suggested combinations would not result in the presently claimed invention reciting a method for providing multimedia functionality including identifying, independent or tasks, available processing resources.

Applicants also respectfully submit that the combined teachings of Sharrit and Bonola fail to teach or suggest an apparatus including program code configured to cause a first portion of a plurality of processors to interact with a first input/output device and program code configured to cause a second portion of the plurality of processors to interact with a second input/output device, as recited in claims 17 and 23. These features are illustrated, for example, in FIG. 5 and are discussed in Applicant's specification on pages 7 and 8.

In Applicant's invention, as recited in the claims, processing resources may be obtained by aggregating the processing capability of one or more processors. For example, the processing capabilities of two processors can be combined to provide a single processing recourse. *Id.*

By contrast, Sharrit is completely silent regarding the recited feature of combining or aggregating the processing capability of one or more processors. Sharrit,

for example, discloses that a particular RRU can be set up to perform one set of processing functions at one moment and a different set of processing functions at another moment (col. 2, lines 39-45). Sharrit further teaches that each of the RRUs can take on a large variety of different forms. Sharrit, however, fails to teach anything about combining or aggregating the processing capability of one or more processors. The secondary reference Bonola is similarly silent regarding this combining or aggregating of processors, as recited in Applicant's claims 17 and 23.

In view of the above arguments, it is clear that the present invention would not have been rendered obvious by the suggested combinations to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Therefore, claims 16-18 and 23 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being patentable, either alone or in combination, over Sharrit and Bonola.

Claims 2-12, 21 and 22 depend from claim 18. Claim 20 depends from claim 16. Therefore, claims 2-12, 21 and 22 are allowable at least for the reasons claims 16 and 18 are allowable, and for the specific features recited therein.

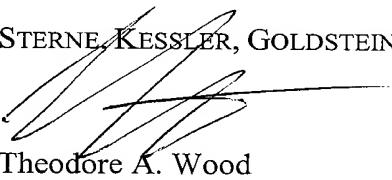
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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